## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

ELAINE L. CHAO, Secretary Labor, United States Department of Labor,	11	808	7 RCL
Plaintiff, v.	MAGISTRATE .	) JUDGE SOY	CIVIL ACTION  FILE NO.
TRUST GROUP, INC. and PAUL F. CANTIANI and JOSEPH E. ANASTASI individually and as Fiduciaries of the Trust Group, Inc. Stock Bonus Plan Plan Defendants		) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) )	RECEIPT #_ AMOUNT \$_\mathcal{N}/P SUMMONS ISSUED_\mathcal{N}/P LOCAL RULE 4.1

## **COMPLAINT**

Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of the United States Department of Labor, hereby alleges:

- (1) This action arises under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. § 1001 *et seq.*, and is brought to obtain equitable relief, to redress violations, and to obtain other appropriate relief necessary to enforce the provisions of Title I of ERISA, pursuant to ERISA §§ 502(a)(2) and (5), 29 U.S.C., §§ 1132(a)(2) and (5).
- (2) The Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to ERISA § 502(e)(1), 29 U.S.C. § 1132(e)(1).
- (3) Venue of this action lies in the District of Massachusetts pursuant to ERISA § 502(e)(2), 29 U.S.C. § 1132(e)(2).

- (4) Trust Group, Inc., during the pertinent period of January 1, 1997 through about January 31, 2002, was an employer within the meaning of ERISA § 3(5), 29 U.S.C. §1002(5), and a corporation having an office and place of business at 425 John Quincy Adams Road, Taunton, MA 02780 within the jurisdiction of this Court.
- (5) Trust Group, Inc. conducted business primarily through two related insurance companies, Trust Insurance Company and Trust Assurance Company. Trust Assurance Company was a wholly owned subsidiary of Trust Insurance Company, and both of those companies were wholly owned subsidiaries of Trust Group, Inc. Trust Insurance Company and Trust Assurance Company never had employees. Trust Insurance Company and Trust Assurance Company operated through Trust Group, Inc. by means of a management services agreement.

  None of the companies functions presently as an on-going business. When it was a viable business entity, Trust Group, Inc. had approximately 300 to 500 employees. Trust Group, Inc. presently has no employees and has not had employees since about January 31, 2002. The current Chairman and President of Trust Group, Inc. is Paul F. Cantiani.
- (6) On or about April 15, 1996, Fleet Bank granted to Trust Group, Inc. a \$20,000,000 (twenty million dollar) revolving line of credit. Trust Group, Inc. provided to Fleet Bank 100% of the stock of Trust Insurance Company as security for the line of credit. Trust Group, Inc. later defaulted on the revolving line of credit. The default amount totaled \$20,000,000 (twenty million dollars).
- (7) In or about November 1999, the Commissioner of Insurance of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("the Insurance Commission") placed both Trust Insurance Company and Trust Assurance Company under administrative supervision due to her concern about the internal financial controls of the companies and inter-company transfers of assets. In or about February

2000, the Insurance Commission sought and received an order from the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County appointing it as temporary receiver of both Trust Insurance Company and Trust Assurance Company. By about July of 2000, the Insurance Commission determined that Trust Insurance Company was insolvent and sought an order of liquidation and permanent receivership for both Trust Insurance Company and Trust Assurance Company. The Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County subsequently granted to the Insurance Commission its requested order of liquidation and permanent receivership.

- (8) The Trust Group, Inc. Stock Bonus Plan ("the Plan"), is an employee benefit plan within the meaning of ERISA § 3(2)(A), 29 U.S.C. § 1002(2)(A), and is covered under ERISA pursuant to § 4(a), 29 U.S.C. § 1003(a).
- (9) Trust Group, Inc. is the sponsor of the Plan, as defined by ERISA § 3(16)(B)(i), 29 U.S.C. § 1002(16)(B)(i).
- (10) The Plan was funded through employer contributions, and the assets of the Plan were to be invested primarily in employer stock.
- (11) As of December 31, 1998, the Plan had 532 participants and beneficiaries with account balances.
- (12) Defendant Trust Group, Inc. was the Plan Administrator of the Plan at all times material hereto, as defined by ERISA § 3(16)(A), 29 U.S.C. § 1002(16)(A). As Plan Administrator, Trust Group, Inc. was and remains a fiduciary with respect to the Plan within the meaning of ERISA § 3(21)(A), 29 U.S.C. § 1002(21)(A). Moreover, as Plan Administrator, Trust Group, Inc. exercised authority or control respecting management of the Plan, and also exercised discretionary authority and responsibility in the administration of the Plan. Such exercise of authority or control in the management of the Plan and discretionary authority and

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responsibility in the administration of the Plan also made Trust Group, Inc. a fiduciary with respect to the Plan within the meaning of ERISA § 3(21)(A), 29 U.S.C. § 1002(21)(A).

- (13) As Plan Administrator, Trust Group, Inc. had, and continues to have, fiduciary responsibilities to the Plan and its participants and beneficiaries. At all times material hereto, it was a responsibility of the Plan Administrator, Trust Group, Inc., to control and manage the operation and administration of the Plan as required by the Plan Document and ERISA. Such responsibilities include, but are not limited to, taking prudent measures to ensure the protection of Plan assets in the absence of prudent Plan trustee action; filing annual reports ("Forms 5500") on behalf of the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor; ensuring continued tax qualification status for the Plan; and, taking proper, timely and prudent measures to distribute Plan assets in the proper amounts to the proper parties when appropriate.
- (14) Paul F. Cantiani became a trustee of the Plan on August 14, 2003. Joseph E. Anastasi became a trustee of the Plan on August 8, 2003.
- (15) As trustees of the Plan, Messrs. Cantiani and Anastasi are fiduciaries with respect to the Plan within the meaning of ERISA § 3(21)(A), 29 U.S.C. § 1002(21)(A).
- (16) As trustees of the Plan, Messrs. Cantiani and Anastasi had, and continue to have, fiduciary responsibilities to the Plan and its participants and beneficiaries. Such responsibilities include, but are not limited to, managing Plan assets and taking prudent measures to protect Plan assets and the value of those assets.
- (17) On or about December 31, 1997, the Plan Sponsor, Trust Group, Inc., deposited with Fleet Bank the sum of \$200,000 into an interest bearing insured money market account held in the name of the Plan.

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- (18) On or about December 31, 1998, the Plan Sponsor, Trust Group, Inc., deposited with Fleet Bank an additional sum of \$200,000 into the same interest bearing insured money market account held in the name of the Plan.
- (19) The monies deposited with Fleet Bank by Trust Group, Inc. on or about December 31, 1997 and December 31, 1998, were duly authorized contributions to the Plan and as such were and remain Plan assets.
- (20) On or about February 28, 2000, Fleet Bank obtained an injunction from Suffolk County Superior Court which prohibits Trust Group, Inc. and any of its subsidiaries and affiliates, except Trust Insurance Company and Trust Assurance Company and their Receiver, from distributing, alienating or otherwise disposing of any assets of or held for the benefit of Trust Group, Inc. with certain exceptions provided to permit the Insurance Commission to continue with its receivership duties. The state court order provides also that Fleet Bank reserves its rights as to the monies deposited with Fleet Bank by Trust Group, Inc. on or about December 31, 1997 and December 31, 1998, into the interest bearing insured money market account held in the name of the Plan.
- (21) The Plan Administrator failed to take appropriate and sufficient action to compel or seek the intervention of the former Plan trustees to take prudent and effective measures to prevent and/or lift the encumbrance placed upon Plan assets by the state court injunction obtained by Fleet Bank. Failing action by Plan trustees, the Plan Administrator, itself, failed to take prudent and effective measures to prevent and/or lift the encumbrance placed upon Plan assets by the state court injunction acquired by Fleet Bank. Plan assets remain in the interest bearing insured money market account into which they were originally deposited.

- (22) Since Plan year 1998, the Plan Administrator has failed to file requisite annual reports ("Forms 5500") and attendant reports, valuations, and schedules with the U.S. Department of Labor.
- (23) Plan trustees, Paul F. Cantiani and Joseph E. Anastasi have failed to prudently manage Plan assets; have failed to value Plan assets as required by ERISA and the Plan Document; have failed to take prudent and effective measures to protect Plan assets; and have failed to take prudent actions to ensure that the Plan Administrator timely files requisite annual reports ("Forms 5500") and attendant reports, valuations, and schedules with the U.S. Department of Labor.
- (24) The Plan Administrator, Trust Group, Inc., has effectively abandoned the Plan, as have the present Plan trustees, Paul F. Cantiani and Joseph E. Anastasi.
- (25) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraphs 21, 22 and 24, Defendant Trust Group, Inc. failed to discharge its fiduciary duties solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of the Plan and for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries, in violation of ERISA § 404(a)(1)(A)(i), 29 U.S.C. § 1104(a)(1)(A)(i).
- (26) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraphs 21, 22 and 24, Defendant Trust Group, Inc. has failed to discharge its fiduciary duties with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent man acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims, in violation of ERISA § 404(a)(1)(B), 29 U.S.C. § 1104(a)(1)(B).
- (27) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraphs 22 and 24, Defendant Trust Group, Inc. has failed to discharge its fiduciary duties in accordance with the documents and

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instruments governing the Plan insofar as such documents and instruments are consistent with ERISA, in violation of ERISA § 404(a)(1)(D), 29 U.S.C. § 1104(a)(1)(D).

- (28) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraph 22, Defendant Trust Group, Inc. has repeatedly violated ERISA § 103, 29 U.S.C. § 1023.
- (29) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraphs 21 and 24, Defendant Trust Group, Inc. has failed to meet its duties which give rise to its status as a fiduciary and failed to undertake reasonable efforts under the circumstances to remedy fiduciary breaches of co-fiduciaries under ERISA, and therefore is liable as a co-fiduciary pursuant to ERISA § 405(a)(2) and (3), 29 U.S.C.  $\S 1105(a)(a)(2)$  and (3).
- (30) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraphs 23 and 24, Defendants Paul F. Cantiani and Joseph E. Anastasi have failed to discharge their fiduciary duties solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of the Plan and for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries, in violation of ERISA § 404(a)(1)(A)(i), 29 U.S.C. § 1104(a)(1)(A)(i).
- (31) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraphs 23 and 24, Defendants Paul F. Cantiani and Joseph E. Anastasi have failed to discharge their fiduciary duties with the care, skill, prudence and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent man acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims, in violation of ERISA § 404(a)(1)(B), 29 U.S.C. § 1104(a)(1)(B).
- (32) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraphs 23 and 24, Defendants Paul F. Cantiani and Joseph E. Anastasi failed to meet their duties which give rise to their status as fiduciaries and failed to undertake reasonable efforts under the circumstances to remedy

fiduciary breaches of co-fiduciaries under ERISA, and therefore are liable as co-fiduciaries pursuant to ERISA § 405(a)(2) and (3), 29 U.S.C. § 1105(a)(a)(2) and (3).

(33) As a result of the conduct set forth at Paragraphs 23 and 24, Defendants Paul F. Cantiani and Joseph E. Anastasi have failed to discharge their fiduciary duties in accordance with the documents and instruments governing the Plan insofar as such documents and instruments are consistent with ERISA, in violation of ERISA § 404(a)(1)(D), 29 U.S.C. § 1104(a)(1)(D).

WHEREFORE, the Secretary of Labor prays that this Court enter an Order:

- (1) Removing Defendants from their fiduciary positions to the Plan;
- (2) Appointing an independent fiduciary to handle Plan Administration, and termination of the Plan, and other fiduciary duties for the Plan from the effective date of this Order forward;
- (3) Requiring Defendants to cooperate fully and promptly with the duly appointed independent fiduciary;
- (4) Requiring Defendants to comply with the provisions of ERISA in the future;
- (5) Awarding to Plaintiff other relief as is equitable and just.

Howard M. Radzely Solicitor of Labor

Frank V. McDermott, Jr. Regional Solicitor

Donald E. d'Entremont

Attorney

BBO # 558834

U.S. Department of Labor Attorneys for Plaintiff

Post Office Address:

U.S. Department of Labor Office of the Solicitor JFK Federal Building Room E-375 Boston, MA 02203 TEL: (617) 565-2500

FAX: (617) 565-2142

DATE 05/19/05

Complaint for Chao v. Trust Group, Inc. et al.

SS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

## **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS				
	O, Secretary of Labor,	TRUST GR	TRUST GROUP, INC., et. al.			
United States	Department of Labor,					
(b) County of Residence of	of First Listed Plaintiff	County of Residence o	f First Listed Defendant	Bristol		
(E)	KCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES (	ONLY)		
			CONDEMNATION CASES, US	E THE LOCATION OF THE		
(617) 565-7	2500	LANDI	NVOLVED. (617) 723-7440			
• •		Attorneys (If Known)	Rosenberg & S	chapiro		
`´U. S.` Dept	Address, and Telephone Number) of Labor/Regional Solicit	or	44 School Stree			
Donald E. o	d'Entremont, Ättorney 1 Bldg, Room E-375 Boston	02203	•	2108		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF P				
U.S. Government		(For Diversity Cases Only)	EE DEE	and One Box for Defendant)		
Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of This State				
☐ 2 U.S. Government	☐ 4 Diversity	Citizen of Another State	2	rincipal Place [] 5 [] 5		
Defendant	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		of Business In A			
	,	Citizen or Subject of a	3 🗇 3 Foreign Nation	06 06		
		Foreign Country				
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES		
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☐ 120 Marine	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 362 Personal Injury	- 🗖 620 Other Food & Drug	423 Withdrawal	☐ 410 Antitrust		
☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	315 Airplane Product Med. Malpractice Liability 365 Personal Injury		28 USC 157	430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce		
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Product Liability	☐ 630 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RIGHTS	460 Deportation		
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander   368 Asbestos Person		☐ 820 Copyrights	470 Racketeer Influenced and		
151 Medicare Act	[7] 330 Federal Employers' Injury Product	☐ 650 Airline Regs.	☐ 830 Patent	Corrupt Organizations		
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability Liability  340 Marine PERSONAL PROPER	TY   660 Occupational   Safety/Health	☐ 840 Trademark	☐ 480 Consumer Credit ☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV		
(Excl. Veterans)	340 Marine Product 370 Other Fraud	690 Other		☐ 810 Selective Service		
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability 371 Truth in Lending		SOCIAL SECURITY	850 Securities/Commodities/		
of Veteran's Benefits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 380 Other Personal	☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff)	Exchange		
☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Property Damage		☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	☐ 875 Customer Challenge		
190 Other Contract	Product Liability 385 Property Damage 360 Other Personal Product Liability	e 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) ☐ 864 SSID Title XVI	12 USC 3410		
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise	Injury Product Clability	& Disclosure Act	☐ 864 SSID 11tle XVI	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions ☐ 891 Agricultural Acts		
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210 Land Condemnation	441 Voting 510 Motions to Vaca	te Q 790 Other Labor Litigation	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	□ 893 Environmental Matters		
☐ 220 Foreclosure	☐ 442 Employment Sentence	791 Empl. Ret. Inc.	or Defendant)	☐ 894 Energy Allocation Act		
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 443 Housing/ Habeas Corpus:	Security Act	3 871 IRS—Third Party	3 895 Freedom of Information		
240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability	Accommodations		26 USC 7609	Act D 900Appeal of Fee Determinatio		
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VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you a ERISA of 1974, 29 US	re filing ( <b>Do not cite jurisdictions</b> C, sec. 101 et. se	al statutes unless diversity):			
	Brief description of cause: to obtain other equitab	n equitable relief, ole relief necessary	to redress viol to enforce the	provisions of Title		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P. 23	N DEMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint f ERIS		
VIII. RELATED CASE IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER			
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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	Donaid	E. GEIRTEMORI, A	ttorney	a la		
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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

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1.	Title of case (nam	ne of first party on each si	ide only)Ch	ao v. Trust	Group, In	c., et al.	
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2.	rule 40.1(a)(1)).	h the case belongs based	upon the number	ed nature of suit coo	ie listed on the civ	il cover sheet. (	See local
	I.	160, 410, 470, 535, R.23,	, REGARDLESS OI	NATURE OF SUIT.			
	X  II.	195, 196, 368, 400, 440, 740, 790, 791, 820*, 830*				rte AO 120 or AO ademark or copy	
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	If so, is the U.S.A.	or an officer, agent or en	nployee of the U.S.	YES a party?	NO	x	
				YES	NO		
6.	Is this case requi	red to be heard and deter	mined by a district	court of three judge	es pursuant to title	28 USC §2284?	
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7.	Do <u>all</u> of the partic Massachusetts ("	es in this action, excludir governmental agencies"),	ng governmental a , residing in Mass	gencies of the unite achusetts reside in t	d states and the C the same division?	ommonwealth of ? - (See Local Ru	ule 40.1(d)).
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	A.	If yes, in which division	do <u>all</u> of the non-g	overnmental parties	reside?		
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